

# WEST LAFAYETTE CITY NEWS

HOME OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2010



## West Lafayette Takes on CLEAN Challenge

The City of West Lafayette said “yes” in June to the Comprehensive Local Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) Community Challenge, a voluntary Indiana program for communities who decide to make significant environmental management commitments.

The announcement followed 18 months of planning, meeting with stakeholders and identifying goals for the next three years, says Dave Henderson, Wastewater Utility Director, who heads the team. “It’s part of our continued commitment to better our impact on the environment.”

*Marking the city’s environmental commitment are David Henderson, Wastewater Utility Director; Mayor John Dennis; and Thomas Easterly, Indiana Department of Environmental Management Commissioner.*

The quality-of-life plan to reduce environmental impacts of city operations includes increasing:

- City Hall recyclables by 20 percent
- Miles of paved trails by 15 percent
- City staff who use non-motorized or public transit by 10 percent
- Use of retread tires on city vehicles.

The plan also says the city will:

- Collect and transform compostable dinnerware into methane for electricity
- Purchase an electric vehicle
- Produce and/or use 5,000 gallons of biodiesel fuel.

The Street Department has begun buying retreads; the city is purchasing a food grinder for food waste and compostable dinnerware; and new recycling procedures are in place at City Hall. Timelines for all goals have been set.



*Donna Leuck’s “Love Your Mother” is one of the artist’s kitchen robots—made from recycled materials—that will be featured at Art on the Wabash.*

*Scott Frankenberger returns to Art on the Wabash with his award-winning ceramic pottery.*

## City to Host Two September Events



### Global Fest

September 4 ■ 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. ■ Morton Community Center  
222 N. Chauncey

Morton Community Center will host the 16th annual Global Fest celebrating our community’s diversity with cultural displays and international foods, art, music and a marketplace. Admission, entertainment and exhibits are free.

This year Global Fest will strive to be a zero-landfill event. Visit [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov) for more information.

### Art on the Wabash

A Local Artists Fair ■ September 19 ■ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ■ Tapawingo Park

About a dozen of the 39 juried artists in Art on the Wabash are new this year. Media include pottery, jewelry, letter press cards, sculpture, photography, paintings, gourds, wood, glass and pencil.

“The setting is perfect for browsing and buying,” says Mayor John Dennis. “We’re dedicated to showcasing the amazing talent here at home.” Visit [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov) for more information.





## Enjoy Great Times Here at Home

by Mayor John Dennis

As I run on our wonderful trail system, or ride through our historic neighborhoods,

it becomes abundantly clear to me that the city of West Lafayette has the recreational opportunities and the historic beauty to rival any community. Add to that the bragging rights of contributing to the success of the likes of Bob Griese and Drew Brees, it's no wonder that West Lafayette attracts people from all over the world.

With our array of ethnic and American eateries, you can see why visitors praise our town. The fare includes everything from pizza, subs and fine dining to Irish, Hawaiian, Chinese, Italian, Japanese, Thai, Indian, Mexican and other around-the-world taste treats.

This fall, the spotlight shines on Global Fest and Art on the Wabash, two events you're sure to enjoy.

Take a look at our community through a tourist's eyes; and like our visitors, you'll be amazed at all we have. Make your own at-home bucket list, and savor all West Lafayette offers.



*Beautification Award winners Lee and Marguerite Trachtman have filled their yard at 3020 N. Salisbury with hostas, lilies and other shade-loving perennials.*

## Many Road Improvements Under Way, Winding Up

Roadwork has been occurring around town this summer.

### Sidewalks, Access, Patching

Among improvements and repairs:

- Sidewalk improvements on Robinson from Dehart to Stadium, funded by federal Community Development Block Grant money
- Universal access ramps at nine intersections
- Sidewalk repairs on Linda Lane, Reba Drive, Quincey Street, Maple Street and Littleton Road
- Numerous concrete patching and road resurfacing projects (full list at [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov)).



*New pavement, sidewalks, trails and a modern roundabout are going in on Cumberland Avenue from Sagamore West to Yeager Road.*

### Cumberland Avenue Phase 1

Despite numerous utility delays and a wet June, the \$2.8 million project to reconstruct Cumberland Avenue has progressed well through July and August, reports City Engineer David Buck. "We expect a mid-August opening and will focus on finishing the east end through October."

Improvements include a modern roundabout at Kent Avenue for safer traffic flow, a multiuse path for added trail connectivity, recycled concrete from the original road and stormwater rain gardens and bio-retention swales for cleaner stormwater. "All-in-all this will be one of the greenest road projects in the city and the state," Buck says.

## West Lafayette Police Beat

**New Dates for Drug Drop-Off.** The next date for anonymously dropping off over-the-counter and prescription drugs is Wednesday, September 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the West Lafayette Police Department lobby, 711 W. Navajo St. The second Tuesday of the month is no longer a set time. For future dates, check [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov). From its March launch through June, the program accepted 189 pounds of over-the-counter and prescription drugs for disposal. Questions? Contact Officer Janet Shepherd, 765/775-5230, [jashepherd@westlafayettepd.us](mailto:jashepherd@westlafayettepd.us).

**Bike Patrols a Positive Impact.** Ten officers are now certified for bike patrol. "Bike patrols get our officers out of their cars to interact more with the public they serve," says Chief Jason Dombkowski. "They also provide police service to areas not always accessible by patrol vehicles, such as parks, trails and outdoor festivals," says Sgt. John Watson. "In large crowds, a bike patrol officer can answer calls quickly. Bike patrols are an extremely valuable tool."

**Reminders from Neighborhood Resource Team.** Help keep West Lafayette looking good with these tips. Place recyclables, large items and trash in approved containers with close-fitting covers curbside the night before or by 7 a.m. on collection day. Lids protect against health issues and keep vermin and moisture out. Please avoid using others' dumpsters and receptacles. Questions? Contact the team at 765/775-5200.



## Progress on the Green Scene

**Recycling Jumps 4%.** “It’s great not to have to sort” and “Nice not having to remember what day to put it out” are among the positive comments received on West Lafayette’s new comingled recycling program, with recyclables and trash picked up the same day.

“Participation is up, and we are receiving a lot more paper and cardboard,” says David Downey, Street Commissioner. “This has resulted in an overall increase of about 4 percent.” With summer vacations keeping some people away, he expects the number to jump even more in September.

**Clear-Blue-Green Certified.** Four West Lafayette businesses have been certified under the Clear-Blue-Green Business Certification Program: Clearly Organized, State Farm Insurance, Sunspot Natural Market and Zojila. It’s a program of the West Lafayette Go Greener Commission, Greater Lafayette Commerce and Wabash River Enhancement Corp. Details at [www.greaterlafayettecommerce.com](http://www.greaterlafayettecommerce.com).



## On the Go with Parks and Recreation

**New Trails Guide Available.** West Lafayette now boasts 23.3 miles of marked trails—15 paved, 4 in footpaths, and 4.3 in the new Village Fitness Trail, with more in the works. Get the scoop on existing and coming routes in the new Trails Guide. It’s available at several locations, such as City Hall, parks facilities, Lafayette-West Lafayette Convention & Visitors Bureau and our website, [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov).

**Webcam for Celery Bog.** Tipmont REMC’s EnviroWatts program has awarded \$2,000 toward the cost of a webcam for the Celery Bog Nature Area. Plans are to install it near the marsh to transmit real-time, color streaming video. It will be available for viewing on the city’s website and on a monitor at Lilly Nature Center, bringing a close-up of the wetlands to people of all ages and physical abilities.

## Purdue Crew Boathouse Opens

The community is invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new, 22,000-square-foot Purdue Crew Boathouse at 3 p.m. on Friday, November 19.

The \$1.7 million, two-story boathouse at the former Burnham’s site on the West Lafayette side of the Wabash River has three shell bays, a maintenance bay and a community bay. It also has a workout area and restrooms.

“It is certainly one of the finest facilities in the country,” says David Kucik, Head Coach for Purdue Crew, which begins its 61st season this year.

“There is not another club facility that compares to the functionality of our new facility,” Kucik says.

The facility also will be home to the community’s Wabash activities. “I believe our community members will begin to experience and grow in a similar fashion as our college students,” Kucik says. “The combined usage facility will greatly enhance our community’s quality of life while bringing more life to our wonderful natural resource, the Wabash.”



## City News

**Staff News.** **Betty Maxwell** retired in June after 21 years at our Wastewater Utility. Recently joining the city:

**Cody Armes**, street and sanitation driver

**Richard Closser**, wastewater lab technician

**Michelle Debord**, engineering office manager

**Website.** Keep in touch with your city’s activities and news at our frequently updated website, [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov). Recently added: video tours; to access, click on the Video Tour Book on the lower left side of the homepage.

**Block Grants Help Local Groups.** West Lafayette received \$477,115 in Community Development Block Grant funding from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development this year. Among those benefiting: The Center @ Jenks Rest, Family Services Inc., Food Finders Food Bank, Lafayette Transitional Housing, Lafayette Urban Ministry, Mental Health America of Tippecanoe County, Mid-Land Meals, Riggs Community Health Center, Tippecanoe County Child Care, and YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. Full report at [www.westlafayette.in.gov](http://www.westlafayette.in.gov).



*Two water features, roses, a kitchen garden and other plantings made the Billy and Joanne Bross landscape at 712 Essex a Beautification Award winner.*

Local Events

Sagamore West Farmers Market:

Local. Fresh. Original.  
Wednesdays through October 27  
3 to 6:30 p.m., Cumberland Park  
Events on Facebook and at  
www.westlafayette.in.gov

September

- 1 Tree planting and care tips from West Lafayette Tree Fund
- 8 Bring pet food donations: Hope for Pets Food Pantry
- 15 Vermiculture Workshop: Help Your Plants Thrive; City Engineering Answer Booth
- 22 Pet adoption information, Almost Home Humane Society
- 29 Mayor at the Market, Grilling demo



Stop by Sagamore West Farmers Market, held every Wednesday through October 27, 3 to 6:30 p.m., Cumberland Park.

October

- 6 Fire safety information and fire hats, Frisbees and a fire truck
- 13 Almost Home Humane Society
- 27 Grilling demo

November

- 24 Thanksgiving Farmers Market

Global Fest

Saturday, September 4 • 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Morton Community Center  
222 N. Chauncey  
Agenda at www.westlafayette.in.gov

Art on the Wabash

A Local Artists Fair  
Sunday, September 19 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Tapawingo Park  
More info at www.westlafayette.in.gov

Feast of the Hunters Moon

Saturday and Sunday, October 2, 3  
Fort Ouiatenon

Purdue Crew Boathouse

Ribbon Cutting  
Friday, November 19 • 3 p.m.  
Community invited

Riverside Skating Center

Friday, November 26  
Opens for the season, weather depending

Global Fest September 4 • Morton Community Center • Art on the Wabash September 19 • Tapawingo Park

ENJOY THESE CITY-HOSTED EVENTS:

COMMITTED TO GOING GREENER

John Dennis • Mayor  
765/775-5100  
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Judy Rhodes • Clerk-Treasurer  
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